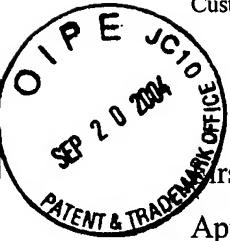


32692

Customer Number

Patent

Case No.: 58453US002



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named Inventor: SETH, JAYSHREE

Application No.: 10/602385

Group Art Unit: 1544

Filed: June 24, 2003

Examiner: James R. Brittain

Title: BREATHABLE FASTENERS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND ELECTION OF SPECIES

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

Date

9/15/04

Signed by: Cheryl L. Schmitz

Cheryl L. Schmitz

Dear Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 9, 2004. Claims 1-26 are pending. Claims 10-26 and 1-9 were restricted under 35 USC § 121 as follows.

I. Claims 10-26 are said to be drawn to an absorbent garment or self-engaging wrap, classified in Class 24, subclass 16R.

II. Claims 1-9 are said to be drawn to a breathable fastening system, classified in Class 24, subclass 451.

Election

In response, Applicants elect claims 1-26 with traverse. Applicants provisionally elect the species in Group I comprising Figures 3-6.

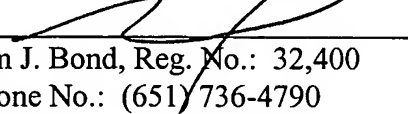
Conclusion

Applicants have elected claims 1-26 and Species Group I comprising Figs. 3-6. Continued prosecution of this application is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no fee is due; however, in the event a fee is required, please charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-3723. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number with questions that can be resolved with a simple teleconference.

Respectfully submitted,

September 15, 2004  
Date

By:   
William J. Bond, Reg. No.: 32,400  
Telephone No.: (651) 736-4790

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833